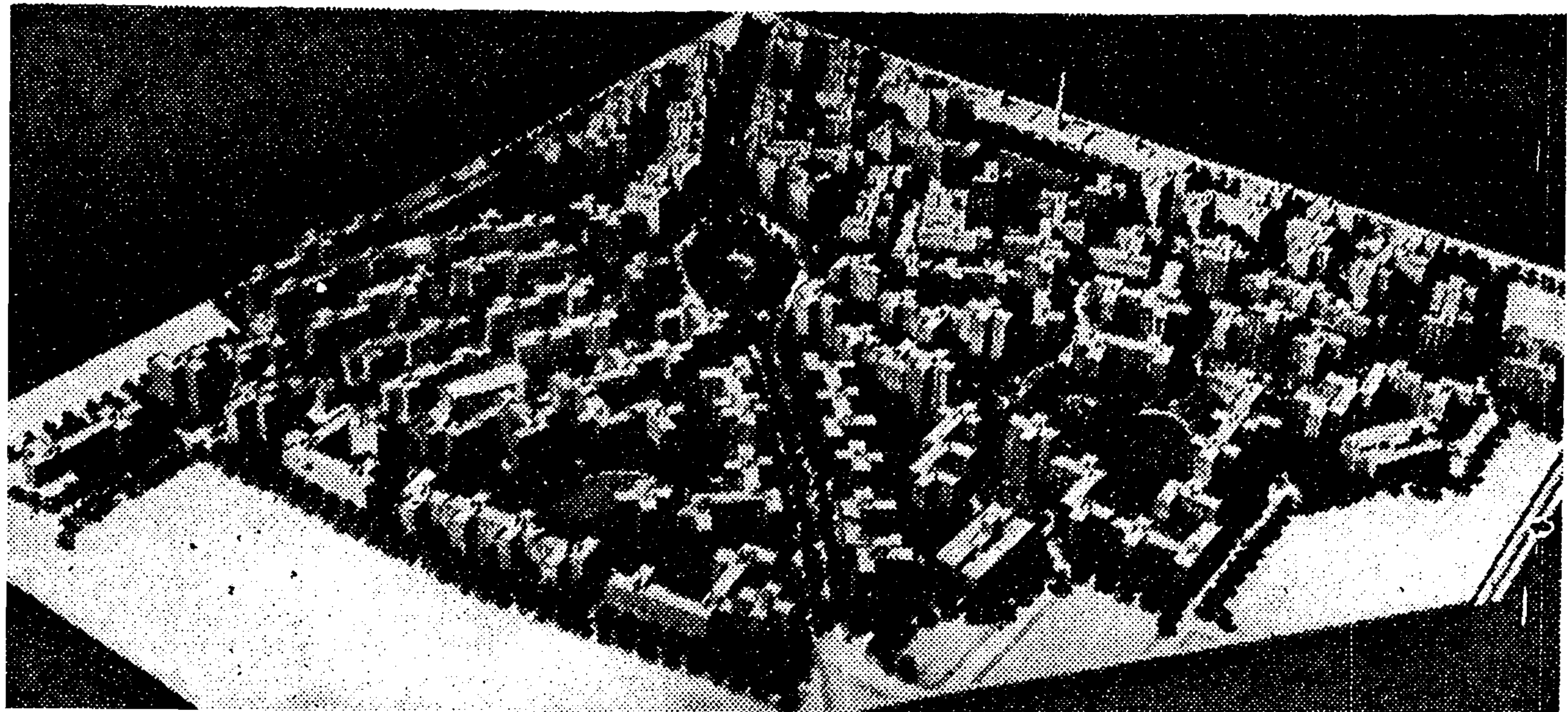


# MODEL OF HOUSING DISPLAYED AT FAIR

Metropolitan Life's Project  
in Bronx to Be Known  
as 'Parkchester'

## SITE LINKED TO HISTORY

Fifty-one Groups of Apartment  
Buildings Will House  
12,000 Families



## MODEL OF BRONX HOUSING SHOWN AT WORLD'S FAIR

This miniature reproduction of the 12,000-family project of the Metropolitan Life Insurance Company rising on the old Catholic Protectory site was placed on view yesterday in the company's exhibit at the exposition. The model measures six by seven feet. R. H. Shreve is chairman of the board of design.

The vast garden apartment community which the Metropolitan Life Insurance Company is creating on a 129-acre site in the East Bronx will be known as Parkchester.

Frederick H. Ecker, chairman of the board of the sponsoring company, announced the name chosen for the project in connection with the showing yesterday, for the first time, of a scale model of the development, placed in the company's exhibit at the World's Fair.

The model, measuring six by seven feet, was built with "mathematical precision" to reproduce not only the general layout of buildings, but also the parks, play fields, stores, theatres, garages and central heating plant, and is complete even to the showing of all of the 66,000 windows which look out on these gardens.

The fifty-one groups of buildings, averaging seven and eight stories in height, are designed to accommodate at least 12,000 families, or more than 40,000 persons, at "moderate" rentals. The exact rates will be fixed shortly. The site is bounded by East Tremont, Castle Hill and McGraw Avenues and White Plains Road, close to the 177th Street station of the Pelham Bay division of the Interborough subway. Unionport Road cuts diagonally through the property.

"Progress of construction at 'Parkchester' has been steady, although we are still in the early stages of our housing plan," Mr. Ecker said. "We have chosen a name which is intended to suggest the laws and open spaces which we

will create, and also the interesting historical background of the site."

The history of the land can be traced back to the Indians and to the old town of Westchester, of which the greater part of the Bronx, including this site, was once a part. The Siwanoy Indians owned this land in 1639 when Jones Bronck, after whom the Bronx was named, landed in New Amsterdam.

Then freeholders of the town of Westchester came into possession of it. Westchester Village was about half a mile to the east, where Westchester Square is now located. The white settlers and Indians in this territory often clashed. Land prices were low, a sale in 1693 showing a price of \$6 an acre.

Early in the eighteenth century, Nathaniel Underhill Sr. had his farm there. Then his son, Nathaniel, became the owner, and in succession Peter Remsen, Joseph Leggett and Thomas Leggett held title. In 1866 the New York Catholic Protectory bought the farm land and held it until last year, when it was acquired by the Metropolitan Life, together with adjoining plottage.